

REMARKS

Claim 1-8 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to Applicants' rights to pursue their subject matter in the present application or in related applications. Claims 9-19, 22-44 have been previously presented. Claims 20 and 21 are currently amended without prejudice and without any intent of disclaiming equivalents thereof.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in light of the aforementioned amendments and following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

In the Final Action, claims 1-8 were rejected and have now been cancelled by the present amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

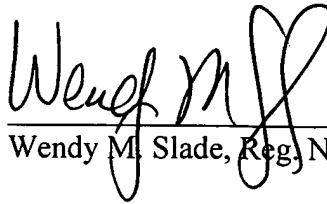
Claims 9-19 and 22-44 were considered allowable and as such have been maintained in the present application.

Claim 20 was rejected as being anticipated by the Appl. Phys. Lett. Article (Vol 57 No. 16) to Hiramoto et al. Claim 21 was rejected as being anticipated by Jpn. J. Appl. Phys. Article to Ni et al. The Examiner stated on page 9, lines 7-9 of the Final Action that claims 20 and 21 had been indicated as allowable by virtue of dependence upon original Claim 13, and that the present later rejection was due to their conversion into independent claims without retaining the limitations of claim 13, rendering the claims no longer allowable. Applicant has therefore amended claims 20 and 21 to make them once again dependent on claim 13. It is believed that claims 20 and 21 as amended are now allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks and the claim amendments prior the applicant respectfully submits that all currently pending claims are allowable. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully and earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wendy M. Slade", written over a horizontal line.

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